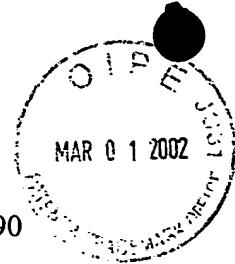


STPP-25,890



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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Giovanni Gozzini

Serial No.: 09/997,549

Filed: November 27, 2001

Group: 2858

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For: IMPROVED SENSING ELEMENT ARRANGEMENT FOR A
FINGERPRINT SENSOR

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Peter J. Thoma

(Date of Signature)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, attached please find a Form PTO SB/08 listing information for consideration by the Office in connection with its examination of the above-captioned patent application.

Applicants request that this information disclosure statement be considered and that a copy of the Form PTO SB/08 be returned to the attorney of record indicating the consideration of each document listed.

REMARKS

Tartagni et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,114,862 discloses a two-dimensional array of capacitive sensor cells over which a dielectric layer forms a sensing surface for contact with the fingerprint-bearing skin of a user's finger.

Thomas et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,326,227 discloses a two-dimensional array of capacitive sensor cells over which a dielectric layer forms a sensing surface for contact with the fingerprint-

bearing skin of a user's finger. Disposed on the dielectric layer is an electrostatic discharge grid of conductive material such as aluminum, titanium, tungsten, or a composite of tungsten atop titanium nitride atop titanium.

Lepert et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,346,739 discloses a two-dimensional array of capacitive sensor cells over which a dielectric layer forms a sensing surface for contact with the fingerprint-bearing skin of a user's finger. Disposed on the dielectric layer is an electrostatic discharge grid of conductive material such as aluminum, titanium, tungsten, or a composite of tungsten atop titanium nitride atop titanium.

Applicants submit that no representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of these materials in any way reflects their relevant pertinence. The listing on the attached Form PTO-1449 is not intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that any of the items listed are properly citable against the above-identified application as prior art. Applicants respectfully submit that their invention is patentable over the enclosed documents listed on Form PTO-1449.

To Applicants' knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), no fee is believed necessary for its consideration. Please charge any necessary fees or deficiencies in fees necessary for the filing of this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0780/STPP-25,890 of HOWISON, THOMA & ARNOTT, L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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